

SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

1435 DRUMMOND ST., MONTREAL 25
TELEPHONE 879-2867



NEWS RELEASE

for release Monday, November 18

S.G.W.U. FALL CONVOCATION NOV. 22 TO HONOR THREE

The Grand Old Man of Skiing, a distinguished Canadian educator, and a renowned Dutch economist will be honored at Sir George Williams University's fall convocation this Friday, November 22 at 3:00 p.m. in the Salvation Army Citadel.

282 students will receive degrees; 153 from the day division, 125 evening students and 4 graduate students. 44 members of the graduating class are presently employed as teachers.

Chancellor Fraser F. Fulton announced that honorary degrees will be conferred upon:

Herman Smith Johannsen, Canadian skiing pioneer;
Robert A. Speirs, headmaster of Selwyn House School;
Jan Tinbergen, professor at the Netherlands School of Economics.

The convocation address will be delivered by Mr. Speirs.

Herman Smith Johannsen was born in Horten, Norway, one of nine children in a family which placed a high premium on year-round life in the outdoors. After receiving an engineering degree, he came to the United States in 1901, a time when the developing natural resources and expanding industries offered broad opportunities for a young engineer who preferred the wilderness to the drafting table. When it became necessary to provide higher education for his three children, he moved business and family to Montreal. Here he plunged wholeheartedly into developing skiing in Canada. President of the Montreal Ski Club in 1931 and an early member of the Red Birds Ski Club, he has probably blazed more miles of trail than any other Canadian. Not only did he conceive and lay out the Maple Leaf Trail, which in the heyday of cross-country skiing in the 1930's and 40's extended a full eighty miles through the Laurentians, but he personally cut much of its winding length. He designed the 1932 Olympic ski jump at Lake Placid, and planned and laid out the original trails in the resort developments at Mount Orford, Whiteface Mountain, and Lac Beauport. ~ Today he finds it hard to reconcile the relentless encroachment of houses, highways and ski-doo's on the peace of the wilderness. He is 93 years old.

Robert A. Speirs was born in Melrose, Scotland in 1908. He received an M.A. with honors in classics from the University of Edinburgh, and was chosen to represent the four Scottish teacher-training colleges on a Macy Exchange

Fellowship to Columbia University. There he acted as external examiner in the graduate field of comparative education and took a master's degree in 1932. He came to Canada in 1936 to head the department of English at Lower Canada College, where he became vice-principal. He was appointed headmaster of Selwyn House School in 1945 and is now in his twenty-fourth year in that charge. He has been interested in a number of community activities. He is past-president of the Community Council of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and of the St. James Literary Society of Montreal. He served for many years as governor and member of the board of management of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and as a member of the senate of the Presbyterian College of Montreal. He is a governor and past-president of the Fraser-Hickson Public Library and secretary of the board of trustees of Knox Crescent and Kensington Church.

Jan Tinbergen was born at The Hague in 1903. He received a doctorate in mathematics and physics from the University of Leiden in 1929. From 1929 to 1945 he conducted trend research with the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics. Since 1933, Dr. Tinbergen has been professor of the economics of centrally directed systems, development programming and mathematical economics at the Netherlands School of Economics, Rotterdam. From 1936 to 1938 he worked with the secretariat of the League of Nations, Geneva. His research of that period was published in the two-volume Statistic Testing of Business Cycle Theories. After World War II he became director of the then newly-established Central Planning Bureau, a post he held until 1955. He also became a member of the Social Economic Council in the Netherlands and of the Royal Academy of Sciences. He is chairman of the National Advisory Council for Aid to Developing Countries and of the U.N. Institute for Scientific Research of Social Development. He is best known internationally as personal adviser to the governments of various developing countries. In 1967 he was awarded the \$29,000 Erasmus Prize honoring exceptional achievements in fields not covered by the Nobel Prize; previous recipients include Marc Chagall, Martin Buber, Charlie Chaplin and Ingmar Bergman. Dr. Tinbergen is a participant in this week's "Asian Drama" international conference being held at Sir George.

From the office: Malcolm Stone,
Information Officer

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NEWS RELEASE

Pour publication le 18 novembre 1968

COLLATION DES GRADES D'AUTOMNE A L'UNIVERSITE
SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS LE 22 NOVEMBRE ...
TROIS GRANDES PERSONNALITES HONOREES

Lors de sa collation des grades le 22 novembre, à 3:00 p.m., à la Citadelle de l'Armée du Salut, l'Université Sir George Williams honorera un célèbre éducateur canadien, économiste hollandais renommé et grand pionnier du ski canadien.

Cet automne, 282 étudiants recevront leur diplôme dont 153 étudiants du jour, 125 étudiants du soir et quatre étudiants d'études supérieures. 44 d'entre eux sont des enseignants.

Le Chancelier Fraser F. Fulton a annoncé que les personnalités suivantes recevront des doctorats honorifiques:

Herman Smith Johannsen, grand pionnier du ski canadien;
Robert A. Speirs, Directeur du Selwyn House School;
Jan Tinbergen, professeur au Netherlands School of Economics.

L'allocution de circonstance sera prononcée par Monsieur Speirs.

Du bureau de: Malcolm Stone,
Directeur de l'Information.

NOTE: Si vous désirez de plus amples renseignements sur les personnalités ci-haut mentionnées, veuillez consulter le communiqué de presse anglais ci-attaché.

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